

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ADS-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COM-04
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 STR-08 FAA-00 L-03
/054 W

-----110059 290517Z /13

R 271938Z DEC 79

FM AMCONSUL MARACAIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 679
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS MARACAIBO 217

E.O. 12065 N/A

TAGS: EAIR, VE

SUBJ: CIVAIR: ACCID: CRASH OF US MANUFACTURED AIRCRAFT AT
MACHIQUES

REF: UNCLAS STATE 328814

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUEST OF THE ABOVE-REFERENCED CABLE,
THE CONSULATE OFFERS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. ACCID
2. AIRCRAFT INVOLVED: CESSNA, SERIAL NO. 5000336, REGISTRATION
NO. YZOMAZ-1, U.S. MANUFACTURE, VENEZUELAN OWNED, REGISTERED
AND OPERATED.
3. OWNER: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK, CARACAS,
VENEZUELA.
4. PILOT IN COMMAND: FERNANDO LOPEZ GONZALEZ.
5. DATE AND TIME OF ACCIDENT: 1600 HOURS, DEC 10, 1979.
6. POINT OF DEPARTURE: HACIENDA LOS ANDES, FARM OF MIGUEL
GUTIERREZ.
DESTINATION: MACHIQUES, ESTADO ZULIA
7. POSITION OF CRASH: MACHIQUES, EDO. ZULIA, VENEZUELA
10 DEGREES NORTH BY 72 DEGREES 30 WEST. APPROXIMATELY 65
MILES SOUTHWEST IF MARACAIBO.

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8. CREW AND PASSENGERS: PILOT: FERNANDO LOPEZ GONZALEZ - KILLED
IN CRASH. CO-PILOT: ISIDRO PEREZ PAZ - KILLED IN CRASH.
PASSENGERS: LUCIANO VALERI (MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE) --
INJURED IN CRASH
CESAR RAMOS -- INJURED IN CRASH
JOSE BARRETO -- INJURED IN CRASH
GEN. OSCAR QUINTERO FERRER -- INJURED IN CRASH.

TOTAL: 2 CREWMEN, 4 PASSENGERS.

BOTH CREWMEN WERE KILLED IN THE CRASH.

9. THE ACCIDENT WAS ALLEGEDLY CAUSED BY BRAKE FAILURE DURING A SCHEDULED LANDING. ACTUAL DETAILS ARE UNCLEAR, BECAUSE:

A. THE PLANE WAS LLY INCINERATED AFTER IMPACT, AND

B. BOTH CREWMEN WERE KILLED IMMEDIATELY.

THE PLANE ITSELF WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

10. AN INVESTIGATION IS APPARENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ZULIA IN VENEZUELA.

11. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ACCIDENT AREA: FLAT, BARREN, MINIMAL VEGETATION, SANDY, OCCASIONALLY WINDY AT THAT TIME OF YEAR.

12. REMARKS: THE DEPARTMENTS INFORMATION THAT THE GOV MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE DIED IN THE CRASH IS INCORRECT. ALL THE PASSENGERS SURVIVED THE ACCIDENT, ALTHOUGH EARLY NEWS REPORTS DID INDICATE THAT THE MINISTER HAD DIED. THE MINISTERS INJURIES WERE NOT SERIOUS. LOCAL AUTHORITIES REPORT THAT A FORMAL INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY. NO INTEREST HAS BEEN EXPRESSED TO THIS CONSULATE FOR NTSB PARTICIPATION. THE CONSULATE WILL TRY TO SECURE A COPY OF ANY REPORT WHICH RESULTS FROM THE INVESTIGATION. IN ADDITION, A COPY OF THIS CABLE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE OFFICE OF THE FAA AT AMEMBASSY CARACAS FOR ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION.
DRISCOLL

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Message Attributes

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